(e) the steps Government are contemplating to improve the above scenario?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) As per Selected Educational Statistics, 2004-05, the Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) in Rajasthan in 102.67 for class l-VIII, which compares favourably to the national level GER of 93.54. It is better than GER of 16 States/UTs.

(b) Yes Sir, the GER in 105.16 and 96.33 for SCs and STs respectively in Rajasthan for class l-VIII and is 95.65 and 86.10 for SC and ST girls, respectively.

(c) The drop-out rate in Rajasthan is 56.59% for class I to V and 73.87% for class I to X.

(d) Data is unavailable for Rajasthan.

(e) Government of India is assisting Rajasthan for implementation of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan programme for promotion on elementary education, under which an outlay of Rs. 1599.99 crores has been provided for 2007-08.

CAG Report on Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan

2934. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the report of CAG for the last year observed that the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) failed to create the desired impact;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the actions contemplated, if any, for more effective implementation of the scheme, in future;

(c) the details of the States found to be the worst accomplishers of the objectives envisaged in the SSA indicating principal areas of shortcomings in their respective implementations;

(d) the details of the States which are found to be implementing SSA satisfactorily indicating the salient features of their performance parameters; and

(e) the funds allocation for SSA for 2007-08?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALIASHRAF FATMI): (a) and (b) the CAG's Performance Audit Report on the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) looked at the programme in its initial years only, where it was not feasible to assess the programmes impact against goals set for 2007 or 2010. That the SSA was able to reduce the number of out of school children dramatically from 4.4 crore during 2001 to 1.34 crore by 2005 was not fully understood or appreciated by the CAG report. The SSA is being implemented with full vigour in all its components.

(c) and (d) An Educational Development Index (EDI) has been developed to track the progress of States towards the goal of universal elementary education based on access, infrastructure, teacher and outcome indicators. As per the EDI, Bihar, Jharkhand, Arunachal Pradesh, West Bengal and Uttar Pradesh *are* the lowest in raking whereas Kerala, Delhi, Tamil Nadu, Pondicherry and Chandigarh are at the top end.

(e) BE for 2007-08 for SSA is Rs. 10,671.00 crores in the Union Budget.

High speed internet connection

2935. SHRI O.T LEPCHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are providing high speed internet connections to various schools and colleges in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) Schemes of Central Government and University Grants Commission which provide assistance for computers to selected schools and colleges do not insist on high speed internet connectivity (speed of 512 Kilo Byte per second (Kbps) or higher).

(b) and (c) Education and Research Network (ERNET), a society under Department of Information Technology is providing internet connectivity at